



PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 4329.2701

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
)  
YASUFUMI TAHARA ET AL. )  
)  
Application No.: 09/992,017 ) Group Art Unit: 2661  
)  
Filed: November 26, 2001 ) Examiner: Unknown  
)  
For: DATA TRANSMISSION SYSTEM, ) Confirmation No.: 8247  
)  
AND NODE EQUIPMENT AND )  
NETWORK MANAGEMENT )  
EQUIPMENT USED IN THE SAME )

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents on the attached listing. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

A copy of the listed foreign document is attached.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

In lieu of a statement of relevance or translation of the non-English document, a Notification of Reasons for Rejection issued by the Japanese Patent Office, mailed October 5, 2004, in a counterpart Japanese patent application citing this document and setting forth the relevance thereof is enclosed. In addition, an English-language translation of the Notification is attached.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

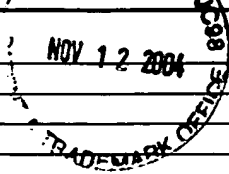
FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

11/11/04

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Richard V. Burgujian  
Reg. No. 31,744

IDS Form PTO/SB/08: Substitute for form 1449A/PTO			<div style="text-align: right;">  </div>		
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>			<b>Complete if Known</b>		
			Application Number	09/992,017	
			Filing Date	November 26, 2001	
			First Named Inventor	Yasufumi Tahara	
			Art Unit	2661	
			Examiner Name	Unknown	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	4329.2701

U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

**Note: Copies of the U.S. Patent Documents are not Required in IDS filed after October 21, 2004**

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		10-117175	5/6/98	Japan		

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Notification of Reasons for Rejection issued by Japanese Patent Office, mailed October 5, 2004, for Japanese Patent Appl. No. 2001-361293, and English-language translation of Notification	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.